

From glowbugs@theporch.com Wed Jan 8 10:41:20 1997  
Return-Path: <glowbugs@theporch.com>  
Received: from uro (localhost.theporch.com [127.0.0.1])  
by uro.theporch.com (8.8.4/AUX-3.1.1)  
with SMTP id KAA11473;  
Wed, 8 Jan 1997 10:30:30 -0600 (CST)  
Date: Wed, 8 Jan 1997 10:30:30 -0600 (CST)  
Message-Id: <199701081630.KAA11473@uro.theporch.com>  
Errors-To: ws4s@infoave.net  
Reply-To: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Originator: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Sender: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Precedence: bulk  
From: glowbugs@theporch.com  
To: Multiple recipients of list <glowbugs@theporch.com>  
Subject: GLOWBUGS digest 408  
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0c -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
X-Comment: Please send list server requests to listproc@theporch.com  
Status: 0

#### GLOWBUGS Digest 408

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) BC-221/LM Calibrating  
by rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu
- 2) Humbled about ARC-5 Receivers...  
by Dave <gekko95@ix.netcom.com>
- 3) Re: Sulking Elephants -- CW Rhythmics  
by Neal McEwen <nmcewen@metronet.com>
- 4) Sulking Elephants  
by "Brian Carling" <bry@mail1.mnsinc.com>
- 5) WA0BPU DE AF4K electronic QSL  
by "Brian Carling" <bry@mail1.mnsinc.com>
- 6) Re: Sulking Elephants  
by Dave <gekko95@ix.netcom.com>
- 7) Re: Sulking Elephants  
by John Kolb <jlkolb@cts.com>
- 8) 6V6 differences..  
by Dave <gekko95@ix.netcom.com>
- 9) Command Set Corpses  
by jeffd@coriolis.com (Jeff Duntemann)

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Date: Tue, 7 Jan 1997 16:38:24 -0500 (EST)  
From: rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu  
To: boatanchors@theporch.com

Cc: rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu (), glowbugs@theporch.com  
Subject: BC-221/LM Calibrating  
Message-ID: <9701072138.AA117915@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>

The calibrating of the BC-221 and LM style frequency meters was done on some sort of mechanical typewriting affair and must have used some sort of typewriter printer like the early Friden machines used with the earliest computers. It could have been a simple numbers only type of thing for less complexity, hooked up to some sort of simple mechanical analog ``computer'' similar to what was used on shipboard fire control in WWII. I don't know the exact details but did hear a tidbit at one time that suggested something like the above. If anyone knows more, historically, please forward it to the crew.

Aside: Calibrating the BC-221 and LM Frequency Meters.

The frequency meters can be very easily calibrated by using the known calibration points on the LF range and the 100kc calibration points on the HF range (even though the book does not use them, they ARE there, weakly and can be checked on a good digital dial receiver). For a reference check the online LM manual in the BA archives, below.

Back in the early days BEFORE personal computers, yours truly, being a poor novice geek without a calibration book on his prized LM-10, and having had a course in FORTRAN programming, whilst plying the late nite ivory towers amid the card punches and test tubes, decided to amend the above lack of said calibration book, by foolishly and unknowingly run forthe a stack of the above said card punch fodder, made from a green line Fortran Coding Form (only real geeks remember those), and stroked with JANuine Fortran incantations, and hence typed thereupon those pencil-pocket-holder-sized-Hollerith-style-cards-only-geeks-used, did, with full and smiling look, pass said card punch fodder onwards and upwards to the high master of computerese incantations and holder of the magic punch card reader keys, and did, with great smiles and joys, finally receive a thin stack of that green and white lined fanfold toilet paper, WITH a hamband calibration for is prized LM-10..... and after many years of hidden knowledge, whilst, readying a box of useless trash paper for the Dempsey Dumpster, accidentally found that fading and crumpled Fortran Coding Form..... (:+{}}, and great joy ensued, again..... And, to make a long story short, with the assistance of one of our own, somewhat more versed in the higher refined incantations of Fortran IV, did resurrect said ancient computer beastie of the mainframe days, and compiled a working dos version which resides in the BA archives at ftp.theporch.com in the pub/mailling-lists/boatanchors directory under the bc221lm\*. \* files.

Thanks to Russ Schroeder/W2DDY for all his Fortran expertise in putting the finishing touches into it.

The program dates from around 1975, but was rehashed in 1980, and finalized in 1994-6 by me and Russ. It is in the public domain, and if anyone can make it better, please DO! It is crude, but does work.

Try it, and if it is of use, go for it!

Keep yer BC-221's and LM's percolating, with new calibrations!

73/ZUT DE NA4G/Bob UP

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Date: Tue, 7 Jan 1997 17:21:53 -0800  
From: Dave <gekko95@ix.netcom.com>  
To: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Subject: Humbled about ARC-5 Receivers...  
Message-ID: <199701080121.RAA26828@dfw-ix5.ix.netcom.com>

I stand before the group humbled and filled with the respect so many of you have for history. I have been 'shown the light' about my newly acquired stash of 3 ARC-5 receivers (BC-455, BC-454, and BC-946) and now have EVERY INTENT to restore them to their original configuration.

Although I doubt my units ever saw more duty than demonstrating gravity in a US Government warehouse, it is most certainly a fact they were truly the work horse receivers of WWII air strategy, and ANY surviving units need more respect than I had heretofore given them. I now want to know more about them and how / where / when they were used.

In my own defense, I do alot of homebrewing and merely thought of them as 'parts', which for more than 30 years they were for most hams. Since I traded them for an old Icom IC-22 with no crystals, I didn't associate alot of value.

Well, now I do! I had never considered their history and my ability to preserve them for the future, when even more will have been hacked up as 'parts'. I honestly do have a deep interest in history of that era (my Father was in Mainz during the liberation - I have his captured Mauser Luger as my only memento of his life).

As one who wrote put it (paraphrased) "why just build a crappy broad band 40 meter rig, that after fighting the QRM would just gather dust on the shelf and be tossed in the dumpster by my heirs?". Kinda sums it up.

I'll email those who offered assistance on restoring them to original configuration and get going soon.

Thanks to ALL who responded about my off-charter question. Groups like this really can make a difference! Three relics of history have been spared!

Now, back to that SuperSimple X Mark II receiver I was building...<g>

73's

Dave WB7AWK

"Give me ambiquity or give me something else"

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Date: Tue, 07 Jan 1997 19:34:53 +0000  
From: Neal McEwen <nmcewen@metronet.com>  
To: Siegfried Rambaum <siram@lightlink.com>  
Cc: w4oa@vibroplex.com, rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu, n9yxa@ix.netcom.com,  
Subject: Re: Sulking Elephants -- CW Rhythmics  
Message-ID: <32D2A55D.7553@metronet.com>

Siegfried,

Your collection of CW Rhythmics is very interesting. However, as a former code instructor and practicer of the find art of CW and American Morse, I have deep reservations about you using the rhythmics as a training tool.

Your ear and brain need to learn the sound of each letter and make the proper association. Pausing to muse, " I heard dah dah dit dah, and that sounds Pay Day Today, so it must be a Q" is recreational but is introducing an added step in identification of the letter. Furthermore it is a crutch and impediment to learning the code by sound.

You want your ear and brain to hear dah dah dit dah and have your hand write a Q without a consicious thought process. It needs to be totally reflexive.

I have taught many a student this way and have turned out some superb CW operators, some that could run circles around me.

Publish your findings and then give yourself the advantage of learning the code in the best and most proficient manner.

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73 de K5RW, Neal McEwen, at "The Telegraph Office", nmcewen@metronet.com  
A WWW Page for Telegraph Key Collectors and Historians  
[http://fohnix.metronet.com/~nmcewen/tel\\_off.html](http://fohnix.metronet.com/~nmcewen/tel_off.html)

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Date: Tue, 7 Jan 1997 18:11:20 +0000  
From: "Brian Carling" <bry@mail1.mnsinc.com>  
To: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Subject: Sulking Elephants  
Message-ID: <199701080211.VAA05623@news2.mnsinc.com>

I've NEVER heard of any of this melodics CW stuff before, but I  
always thought of a "C" as "CHOWPY-CHOWPIT"

ESPECIALLY if there was some chirp on the signal, he he!

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Date: Tue, 7 Jan 1997 18:50:58 +0000  
From: "Brian Carling" <bry@mail1.mnsinc.com>  
To: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Subject: WA0BPU DE AF4K electronic QSL  
Message-ID: <199701080251.VAA07577@news2.mnsinc.com>

Fine to work you on 3579 kHz this evening Steve!

Your 6L6 sounds good. A LITTLE bit of yoop, but not bad at all.  
Signals were weak both ways I am sure.

WA0BPU on January 8th at 0232 UTC on 3579 kHz  
Your RST 549 CW.

My rig 6AG7 - 6L6 with 3 watts output to a G5RV dipole  
that has just been raised up higher on one side and freed from some  
branches that had trapped it badly. It was a LOT of work with the  
slingshot and fishing line etc. this past weekend but seems to have  
helped. Hiding a 110 foot long antenna 30 feet up in the air in a  
residential neighborhood where antennas are not allowed is no small  
feat, let me tell you!

I finally managed to squeeze a bit more RF out of this rig this  
evening and you were the first victim!

The way I did it was to add some extra capacitance across the loading  
capacitor. I added an extra 500 pF across it and bingo - went from only  
getting 1-2 watts to a massive THREE watts out, he he!

thanks again & 73!

Bry

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\*\*\* 73 from Radio AF4K / G3XLQ in Gaithersburg, MD USA \*  
\*\* E-mail to: bry@mnsinc.com \*  
\*\*\* See the great ham radio resources at: \*  
\*\* <http://www.mnsinc.com/bry/> \*  
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Date: Tue, 7 Jan 1997 18:52:15 -0800  
From: Dave <gekko95@ix.netcom.com>  
To: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Subject: Re: Sulking Elephants  
Message-ID: <199701080252.SAA05642@dfw-ix5.ix.netcom.com>

At 08:38 PM 1/7/97 -0600, you wrote:  
>I've NEVER heard of any of this melodics CW stuff before, but I  
>always thought of a "C" as "CHOWPY-CHOWPIT"  
>  
>ESPECIALLY if there was some chirp on the signal, he he!  
>  
>

And of course, V is that cool riff that starts Beethoven's big tune.

(Rumor has it Mr. Morse used that riff as the basis for the V. Anyone know?)  
"Give me ambiquity or give me something else"

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Date: Tue, 7 Jan 1997 19:33:28 -0800 (PST)  
From: John Kolb <jlkolb@cts.com>  
To: Dave <gekko95@ix.netcom.com>  
Subject: Re: Sulking Elephants  
Message-ID: <Pine.SC0.3.91.970107193124.27594A-1000000@sd.cts.com>

> At 08:38 PM 1/7/97 -0600, you wrote:  
> >I've NEVER heard of any of this melodics CW stuff before, but I  
> >always thought of a "C" as "CHOWPY-CHOWPIT"  
> >

Always thought of the question mark as

DID DE DUMB DUMB DID DE?

And yes as a mental crutch, it does slow me down a little when I hear a ? mark.

John KK6IL

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Date: Tue, 7 Jan 1997 22:14:57 -0800  
From: Dave <gekko95@ix.netcom.com>  
To: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Subject: 6V6 differences..  
Message-ID: <199701080614.WAA23288@dfw-ix5.ix.netcom.com>

What are the differences in the various configurations of the 6V6? Do the larger ones handle more plate voltage, or dissipate more power? Also, what is a 'blue tube' and what makes it different?

Just curious...

Dave WB7AWK  
"Give me ambiquity or give me something else"

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Date: Wed, 8 Jan 1997 08:49:33 -0700  
From: jeffd@coriolis.com (Jeff Duntemann)  
To: glowbugs@theporch.com  
Subject: Command Set Corpses  
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19970108084305.00f8bcc4@ntserver.coriolis.com>

While it's true that anything approaching an intact Command set should be retained and perhaps restored, there are an incalculable number of stripped-down Command chassis (I have one that was cut in half lengthwise for inexplicable reasons) minus inductors, caps, and so forth. Anybody who really wants to build a radio in a Command chassis should look for one of these. I see one or two every hamfest. Two 807s or 1625's in parallel can make a potent signal, and the box is certainly big enough.

--73--

--Jeff Duntemann KG7JF  
Scottsdale, Arizona

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End of GLOWBUGS Digest 408  
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